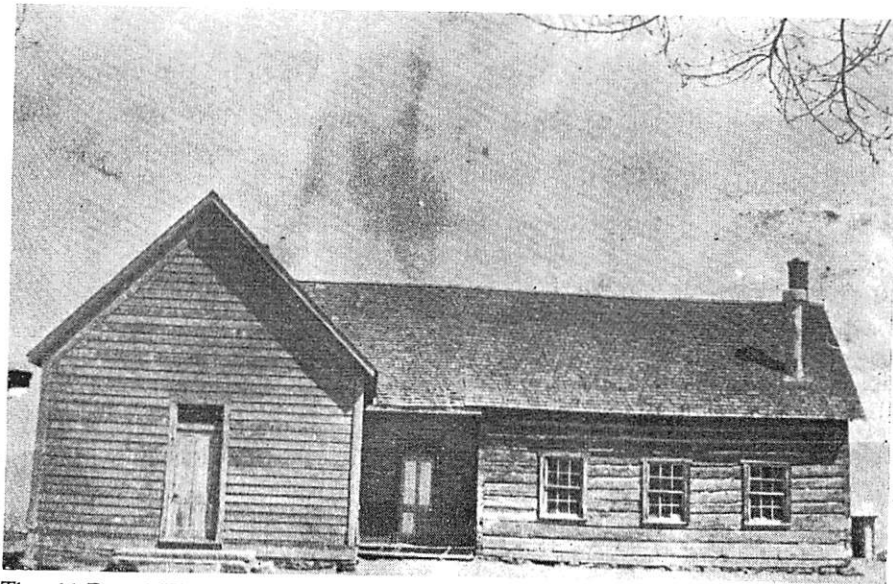


CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

Religious Life

Activity in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the mainstay in the lives of those who settled in Wasatch County. Many had come to the area from foreign lands because of their membership in the Church and the desire they had to be with the main body of saints. Though they worked hard in winning the land, they found ample opportunity to meet together and worship the Lord, their God.

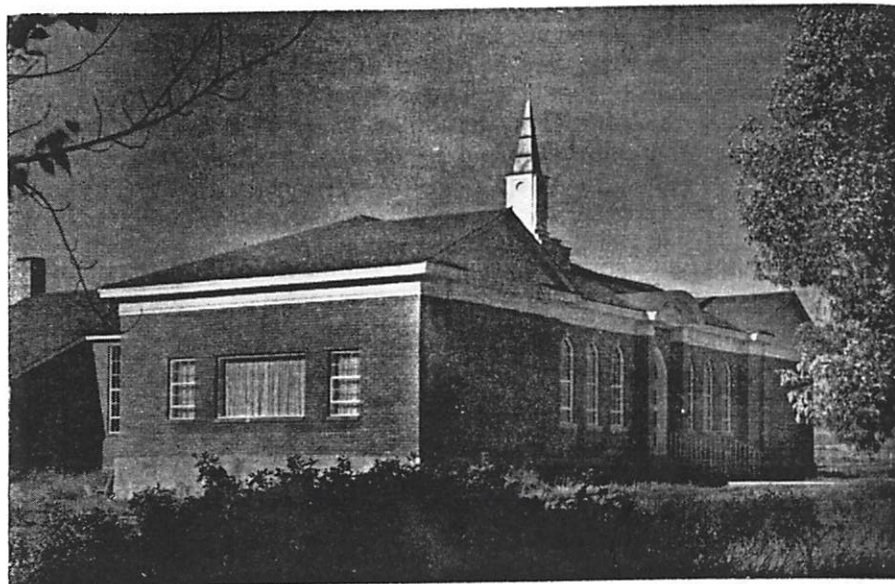


The old Daniel Ward meeting house, which served also as a school. This photograph was taken in 1903.

Church buildings were among the first structures erected in the Wasatch area, and the Daniel settlement was no exception as branches of the Church were soon established in Buysville and in Daniels Creek.

The Buysville area was settled about 1870 as an outgrowth of Charleston. The Church history was closely identified with the Charleston Ward until 1896. In the fall of that year, Bishop Nymphus C. Murdock of Charleston appointed William McGhie as presiding elder in the Buysville Branch. Meetings were held in the district school house.

Two years later the branch was organized as the Buysville Ward.



The present Daniel Ward Chapel which was begun in 1951 and dedicated July 8, 1956 by Elder Mark E. Petersen of the Council of the Twelve.

The organization took place on Nov. 12, 1898, and Charles John Wahlquist was sustained as the first Bishop. He presided over the ward until May of 1903 when the ward was discontinued.

In Daniel, the first settlers made their homes in 1874 and were affiliated with the Center Creek Ward until 1885 when Joseph Jacob was sustained as presiding elder in the Daniel Branch. He was succeeded in 1888 by John P. Jordan who served until Nov. 29, 1898 when the Daniels Ward was formed. First Bishop was Patrick Henry McGuire.

The two wards continued their meetings, socials and other activities as separate units until May 10, 1903 when the members were called together to approve a merger of the two ecclesiastical units.

The special conference took place in Buysville and was attended by Elders Rudger Clawson and Hyrum M. Smith of the Council of Twelve Apostles. Also in attendance were President William H. Smart of Wasatch Stake, his counselors, members of the Stake High Council, Hugh W. Harvey, Robert Lindsay, Adolphia Y. Duke, Henry L. McMullin and Livingston Montgomery; Joseph Musser, stake clerk; Joseph H. Lambert, superintendent of the stake Sunday Schools, and his assistants, David A. Broadbent and John W. Winterrose; Joseph A. Murdock, stake chorister; Jane M. Giles, stake Primary president, with Mary Duke, her counselor; and the two bishops of the wards, P. H. McGuire of Daniel and Charles J. Wahlquist of Buysville.

Elder Clawson, in opening the meeting, said the purpose was to consider the amalgamation of the two wards. He said that with a

population as small as that possessed by each of the wards it was impossible to keep the organizations in a healthy condition, hence proper work could not be done. Elder Clawson also urged the members of the two wards to be guided in all things by the spirit of the Lord and seek to sustain whatever the authorities recommended to them.

Following Elder Clawson's opening remarks, President Smart said that the stake presidency had been concerned about the well being of the two wards in the stake. He said they had been impressed to merge the two wards, as this would result in great good.

President Smart said the stake presidency had counseled with the General Authorities on the matter and had received approval to merge the wards. He concluded by commending the bishops of the two wards for their faithfulness.

Elder Smith of the Council of the Twelve spoke next and said that the General Authorities and stake officials had only one purpose on the earth and that was to cultivate and build up the work of the Lord.

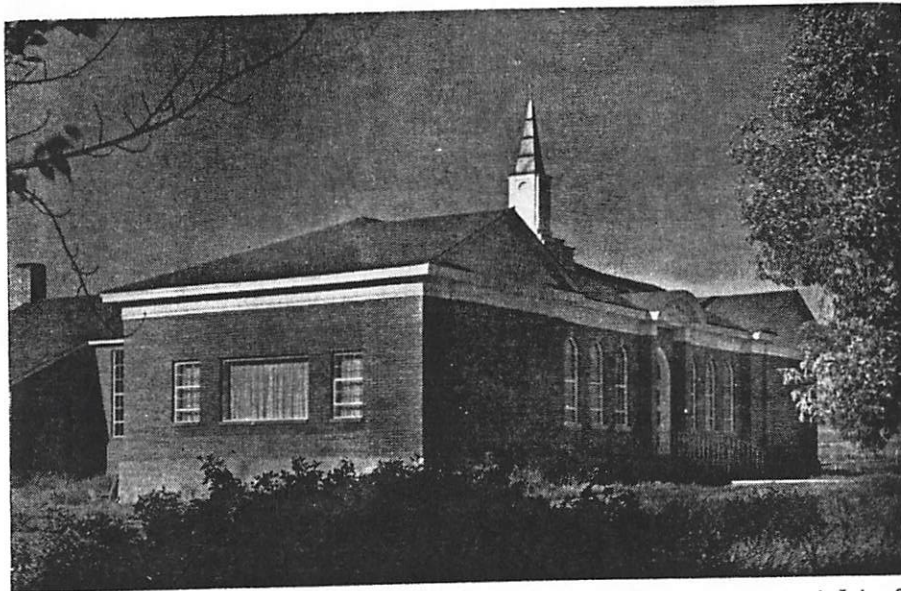
Under present conditions, he said, the amalgamation of the wards would give more strength to the organization and enable the people to accomplish a great deal more of the Lord's work. He further said that the stake and ward authorities are held responsible for the charge placed upon them and one's personal interest must be secondary in the work of the Lord.

Elder Smith reminded the saints that there would be opposition in this move, because opposing forces were always present. No movement can be started by the authorities of the Church, or even by the Lord Himself, without some resulting opposition, he continued. However, he urged the people to rely upon their chosen authorities and to try and find the good qualities in their brothers and sisters of the Gospel.

Following Elder Smith's remarks the merger was put to a vote and it was unanimously decided to join the Buysville and Daniel wards. Bishop Charles J. Wahlquist and his counselors, William Thacker and Charles P. Carlen and clerk John H. Carlen of Buysville Ward were released with a vote of thanks for their faithful labors, as were Bishop McGuire, his counselors, George A. Clift and William S. Bethers, and clerk Mark Orgill.

Bishop McGuire was then sustained as bishop of the new combined ward with William C. Bell as his first counselor and Joseph C. McDonald as second counselor. Selection of a name for the ward was left until a later meeting.

After the members of the new bishopric had expressed their willingness to accept the positions to which they had been called, Elder Clawson set apart Bishop McGuire. Elder Bell was then set apart and Elder McDonald was ordained a high priest and set apart as the second counselor.



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Alice Crook Hoover, 1943-1945; Alice Wagstaff Thacker, 1945-1946; Donna Carlson, 1946-1947; Mary M. Casper, 1947-1948; Norma Burbridge, 1948-1949; Grace Winterton Simmons, 1949-1950; Maud Mable Winterton, 1950-.

YOUNG MEN'S MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION: Joseph R. Murdock, first superintendent, sustained Nov. 12, 1877 and served until Dec. 23, 1880; George Smith, 1880-1882; William Daybell, 1882-1883; Joseph R. Murdock, 1883-1884; Emmanuel Richman, 1883-1885; George T. Baker, 1885-1886; William Webster, 1886-1887; Joseph R. Murdock, 1887-1890; William Heber Widdison, 1890-1892; John M. Ritchie, 1892-1896; Heber Johnathan Wagstaff, 1896-1897; George Price, 1897-1901; George W. Daybell, 1901; Joseph Jacob, 1901-1902; George W. Daybell, 1902-1905; George Price, 1905-1910; Moroni Winterton, 1910-1913; David Thacker, 1913-1917; Bernell Edwards, 1917-1918; Wayne C. Whiting, 1919-1926; Heber R. Winterton, 1926-1929; Clyde Ritchie, 1929-1933; Curtis Lefler, 1933-1935; LeRoy Casper, 1935-1937; Vern W. Price, 1937-1941; Lawrence Edwards, 1941-1946; Douglas Edwards, 1946-1951; Floyd Edwards, 1951-1957; Calvin D. Edwards, 1957-1959; Dean Palmer, 1959-.

YOUNG WOMEN'S MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION: Esther M. Davis, first president, sustained about 1877 and served until Nov. 23, 1884; Margaret Wright was the next president, succeeded by Mary Hannah Price and then by Mrs. Charlotte Hanks. Sarah Ann Ritchie, 1892-1893; Emma Brown, 1893-1895; Esther Wagstaff, 1895-1897; Mary Hannah Price, 1897-1904; Mattie North, 1904-1910; Elsie Simmons, 1910-1911; Theresa Simmons, 1911-1913; Mona Daybell, 1913-1918; Lacy Ritchie, 1918-1922; Theresa Simmons, 1922-1926; Ruby Madsen, 1926-1927; Nellie Wright, 1927-1933; Eva K. Allen, 1933-1935; Lucy Winterton, 1935-1936; Donna Carlson, 1936-1937; Pearl Edwards, 1937-1939; Alta N. Johnson, 1939-1941; Fern Young, 1941-1943; Florence Carlile, 1943-1944; Ruth Todd, 1944-1948; ReNee Thacker, 1948-1949; Donna Carlson, 1949-1952; Erma Jean Besendorfer, 1952-1954; Zenda Edwards, 1954-1955; Waldie Besendorfer, 1955-1956; Mary Pratt, 1956-1957; Kathryn Webster, 1957-1959; and Cora Clayburn, 1959-.

RELIEF SOCIETY—Delight Decker, first president when the Relief Society was organized December 20, 1870. Other presidents, Maria Powell, 1873-1874; Emma Brown, 1874-1879; Melissa Murdock, 1879-1901; Margaret J. Murdock, 1901-1903; Mima Broadbent, 1903; Margaret S. Murdock, 1907; Lucy A. Jacob, 1907-1914; Lizzie Whiting, 1914-1926; Marian Carlile, 1926-1929; Theresa Simmons, 1929-1936; Nellie W. Wright, 1936-1938; Leah Casper, 1938-1944; Mima Thacker, 1944-1947; Lucy E. Winterton, 1947-1948; Leila Edwards, 1948-1950; Violet Whiting, 1950-1953; Ella Muhlestein, 1953-1957; Velda Carlson, 1957-.

In addition, countless hundreds of Charleston Ward members have served as counselors, secretaries and in many other capacities in these

Ref: 1. H.B. L.M. pp 825-834

*History of Daniel Branch
+ Daniel Ward*